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THE FREEDMEN'S BUREAU BILL,

Objections to the Bill--Its Unconsti-

To the Senate of the United States:

I have examined with care the bill which originated in the Senate, and has been passed by the two Houses of Congress, to amend an act entitled "An act to establish a Bureau for the relief of Freedmen and Ruragees, and for other purposes." Having with much regret come to the conclusion that it would not be consistent with the public welfare to give my approval to the measure, I return the bill to the Senate with my objections to its becoming a law. I might call to mind, in advance of these objections, that there is no immediate necessity for the proposed measure.

temporary jurisdiction of the Freed-men's Bureau with greatly enlarged powers over those States in which the ordinary course of judicial proceedings has been interrupted by the rebellion. The source from which this military The source from which this military jurisdiction is to emanate is none other than the President of the United States, acting through the War Department and the Commissioners of the Freedmen's Bureau. The agents to carry out this military jurisdiction are to be selected either from the army or from civil life. The country is to be divided into districts and sub-districts, and the number of salaried agents to be employed may be equal to the number of countles or parishes in all the United States where freedmen and refugees are to be found. The subjects over which this military jurisdiction is to extend in every part of the United States includes protection to all employes, agents and officers of this Bureau in the exercise of

this military jurisdiction is to extend in every part of the United States includes protection to all employes, agents and officers of this Bureau in the exercise of the duties imposed upon them by the bill. In eleven States it is further to extend over all cases affecting freedmen and refugees, discriminated against by local law, custom or prejudice. In those eleven States the bill subjects any white person who may be charged with depriving a freedman of any civil rights or immunities belonging to white persons, to imprisonment or fine, or both; without, however, defining the civil rights and immunities which are thus to be secured to the freedmen by military law. This military jurisdiction also extends to all questions that may arise respecting contracts. The agent who is thus to exercise the office of a military judge may be a stranger entirely ignorant of the laws of the place, and exposed to the errors of judgment to which all men are liable. The exercise of power over which there is no legal supervision, by so vast a number of agents as is contemplated by the bill, by the very nature of man, must be attended by acts of caprice, injustice and passion.

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lies no appeal, no writ of error to any united States. If any portion of the But if they are all excluded of the courts, in which the Constitution of the United States vests exclusively the judicial power of the country.—
While the territory, and the classes of actions and offenses that are made subscatton, even then it cannot be appropriate the Government. Under the Government.

WHEELING, WEST VA., THURSDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 22, 1866. declares, in connection with taxation, that each State shall have at least one Representative, and fixes the rule for the number to which in future times are ach State shall be entitled. It also provides that the Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, and sads, with permitted with the loud reports of guns of States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, and sads, with permitted with the loud reports of guns shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate. The original act was necessarily passed in the absence of the States chiefly to be affected, because their people were then contumated to state attending Congress by loyal Representatives, soliciting the allowance of constitutional right of resentation. At the time, however, of the cause is changed, and some at least of the States are attending Congress by loyal Representatives, soliciting the allowance of constitutional right of reports were and are made against the states which are to be mainly affected by its provisions. The very fact that reports were and are made against the good disposition of the country is an additional reason why they need and should have representatives of their own in Congress to explain their condition, reply to accustations, and assist by their local knowledge in the perfecting of measures immediately affecting the reports were and are made against the good disposition of the country is an additional reason why they need and should have representatives of their own in Congress to explain their condition, reply to accustations, and assist by their local knowledge in the perfecting of measures immediately affecting as the provise of the condition, reply to accustations, and assist by their local knowledge in the perfecting of measures immediately affected by the reply to accusations, and assist by the local knowledge in the perfecting of measures immediately affected by the reply to accusation and the laying on the cause of the condition, reply to accusations, and assist by t

new-born infant completes the half-dozen.

The Royal infant was christened with the greatest solemnity on the following Sunday morning in the chapel of the Queen's Palace. The God parents were the King and Queen of the Belgians, represented for the occasion by the Belgian Minister and the Princess Royal, Maria Isabel of Spain. The Papai Nuncio officiated, and the water sprinkled on the child's bead was carried for the purpose from the Jordan. All the dignitaries of the State and the foreign diplomacy attended the ceremony. The Infante has received at the font 112 names, "comprehending," as the official papers inform us, "all the invocations of the Most Holy Virgiu." The first and real name, however, is that of the blessed Francise of e Asis.

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tutionality Asserted.
To the Senate of the United States:

objections, that there is no immediate necessity for the proposed measure. The act to establish a Bureau for the relief of freedmen and refugees, which was approved in the month of March last, has not yet expired. It was thought stringent and extensive enough for the purpose in view in time of war. Before it ceases to have effect, further experience may assist to gaide us to a wise conclusion as to the policy to be adopted in time of peace. I share with Congress the strongest desire to secure to the freedmen the full enjoyment of their freedom and their prosperity, and their entire independence and equality in making contracts for their labor; but the bill before me contains provisions which, in my opinion, are not warranted by the Const futton and see not well

istence as an auxiliary, has been already effectually and finally abrogated throughout the whole country by an amendment of the Constitution of the United States, and practically, its gradication has received the assent and concurrence of most of those States in which it at any time had an existence. I am not, therefore, able to discern in the condition of the country anything to justify an apprehension that the powers and agencies of the Freedmen's Bureau, which were effective for the protection of freedmen and refugees during the actual continuance of hostilities and of African servitude, will now, in the dawn of peace, and after the abolition of slavery, prove inadequate to the same proper end. If a many correct in these views, there can be no necessity for the enlargement of the powers of the Bureau for which provision is made in the bill.

The third section of the bill authorizes a general and unlimited grant of support to the destitute and suffering refugees and freedmen, their wives and children. Succeding sections make provision for the rent or purchase of landed estates for freedmen, and for the expenses to be defrayed from the Treasury of the whole people. The Congress of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, and Eds. States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, and Eds. States shall be composed of the States shall be deprived of its equal states shall be composed of the States shall be deprived of its equal states shall be composed of the States shall be deprived of its equal states and the states shall be deprived of its equal states and the states chiefly to be affected, because their people were then contumated. The binding Congress by loya

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